

a second function to select for viewing on the display at least one image belonging to a group of images, when the first function has selected the user-designated preferred image within the group of images.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The image browsing user interface of claim 1, further comprising:

a third function to designate, in response to user input, the user-designated preferred image within a group of images.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The image browsing user interface of claim 3, wherein the third function designates as the user-designated preferred image the most recently selected image within the group of images.

Claim 5 (original): The image browsing user interface of claim 1, wherein the set of images contains at least one individual image.

Claim 6 (original): The image browsing user interface of claim 1, wherein the first function comprises a first pair of opposing directional modes, and the second function comprises a second pair of opposing directional modes that is orthogonal to the first pair of opposing directional modes.

Claim 7 (original): The image browsing user interface of claim 1, further comprising:

a fourth function to delete all images except those belonging to the set of images.

Claim 8 (currently amended): An image browsing user interface, comprising:

means for displaying at least one image; and

first input means for selecting for display an image belonging to a set of images, the set of images comprising at least one user-designated preferred image, each user-designated preferred image belonging to a group of images.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The image browsing user interface of claim 8, further comprising:

second input means for selecting for display at least one image belonging to a group of images, when the first input means has selected the user-designated preferred image within the group of images.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The image browsing user interface of claim 8, further comprising:

third input means for designating, in response to user input, the user-designated preferred image within a group of images.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The image browsing user interface of claim 10, wherein the third input means designates as the user-designated preferred image the most recently selected image within the group of images.

Claim 12 (original): The image browsing user interface of claim 8, wherein the set of images contains at least one individual image.

Claim 13 (original): The image browsing user interface of claim 8, wherein the first input means comprises a first pair of opposing directional modes, and the second input means comprises a second pair of opposing directional modes that is orthogonal to the first pair of opposing directional modes.

Claim 14 (original): The image browsing user interface of claim 8, further comprising:

fourth input means for deleting all images except those belonging to the set of images.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A digital camera, comprising:

an optical system;

an imaging device to convert optical images received from the optical system to corresponding digital images;

a memory to store the digital images;

a display;

control logic configured to designate, in response to user input, a user-designated preferred digital image within each of at least one group of digital images;

a first input control to select for viewing on the display a digital image belonging to a set of digital images, the set of digital images comprising at least one user-designated preferred digital image; and

a second input control to select for viewing on the display at least one digital image belonging to a group of digital images, when the first input control has selected the user-designated preferred digital image within the group of digital images.

Claim 16 (currently amended): The digital camera of claim 15, wherein the control logic designates the most recently selected digital image within each group of digital images as the user-designated preferred digital image.

Claim 17 (original): The digital camera of claim 15, wherein the set of images contains at least one individual image.

Claim 18 (original): The digital camera of claim 15, wherein the first input control comprises a first pair of opposing directional modes, and the second input control comprises a second pair of opposing directional modes that is orthogonal to the first pair of opposing directional modes.

Claim 19 (original): The digital camera of claim 18, wherein the first pair of opposing directional modes lies horizontally with respect to a housing of the digital camera and the second pair of opposing directional modes lies vertically with respect to the housing of the digital camera.

Claim 20 (original): The digital camera of claim 18, wherein the first pair of opposing directional modes lies vertically with respect to a housing of the digital camera and the second pair of opposing directional modes lies horizontally with respect to the housing of the digital camera.

Claim 21 (original): The digital camera of claim 15, further comprising:
a third input control to delete all digital images except those belonging to the set of digital images.

Claim 22 (original): The digital camera of claim 15, further comprising:

a communication interface configured to transfer at least the set of digital images to an external device.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A method for manipulating images stored in a device, comprising:

selecting for display at least one image belonging to both a first and a second set of images using a first control;

selecting for display at least one image belonging to the second set of images using a second control; and

designating, in response to user input, one of the at least one images belonging to the second set of images as a user-designated preferred image, the user-designated preferred image thereby becoming a member of both the first and second sets of images.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The method of claim 23, wherein designating, in response to user input, one of the at least one images belonging to the second set of images as a user-designated preferred image is performed in response to at least one image not belonging to the second set of images being selected using the first control, the user-designated preferred image comprising the most recently selected image from among the at least one images belonging to the second set of images.

Claim 25 (currently amended): The method of claim 23, wherein designating, in response to user input, one of the at least one images belonging to the second set of images as a user-

designated preferred image comprises embedding a tag within the one of the at least one images belonging to the second set of images.

Claim 26 (currently amended): The method of claim 23, wherein designating, in response to user input, one of the at least one images belonging to the second set of images as a user-designated preferred image comprises setting a directory attribute associated with the one of the at least one images belonging to the second set of images.

Claim 27 (currently amended): The method of claim 23, wherein designating, in response to user input, one of the at least one images belonging to the second set of images as a user-designated preferred image comprises adding to a list of user-designated preferred images an identifier corresponding to the one of the at least one images belonging to the second set of images.

Claim 28 (original): The method of claim 23, further comprising:

deleting all images stored in the device except those belonging to the first set of images.

Claim 29 (original): The method of claim 23, further comprising:

uploading at least the first set of images to an external device.

Claim 30 (original): The method of claim 29, wherein all images stored in the device are uploaded to the external device, the external device subsequently operating upon only the first set of images by identifying a tag embedded within each image belonging to the first set of images.

Claim 31 (original): The method of claim 23, wherein the device is a digital camera, a palmtop computer, a PDA, a personal computer, or a communicator phone.

Claims 32-39 (canceled)

Claim 40 (original): A method for manipulating images stored in a device, comprising:

- selecting for display an image belonging to both a first and a second set of images using a first control;
- accessing the second set of images using a second control;
- selecting for display a different image belonging to the second set of images using the first control;
- exiting the second set of images using the second control;
- designating the most recently selected image belonging to the second set of images as a preferred image, the preferred image thereby becoming a member of both the first and second sets of images.

Claim 41 (original): The method of claim 40, wherein designating the most recently selected image belonging to the second set of images as a preferred image comprises embedding a tag within the most recently displayed image belonging to the second set of images.

Claim 42 (original): The method of claim 40, wherein designating the most recently selected image belonging to the second set of images as a preferred image comprises setting a directory attribute associated with the most recently displayed image belonging to the second set of images.

Claim 43 (original): The method of claim 40, wherein designating the most recently selected image belonging to the second set of images as a preferred image comprises adding to a list of preferred images an identifier corresponding to the most recently displayed image belonging to the second set of images.

Claim 44 (original): The method of claim 40, further comprising:

deleting all images stored in the device except those belonging to the first set of images.

Claim 45 (original): The method of claim 40, further comprising:

uploading the first set of images to an external device.

Claim 46 (original): The method of claim 45, wherein all images stored in the device are uploaded to the external device, the external device subsequently operating upon only the first set of images by identifying a tag embedded within each image belonging to the first set of images.

Claim 47 (original): The method of claim 40, wherein the device is a digital camera, a palmtop computer, a PDA, a personal computer, or a communicator phone.